THE CORRUPTION IN CONTRACTS.

Speech of Mr. Van Wick in the House,

&c.,

enment contracts.

mittee, said .- Mr. Speaker, on the 19th day of April, 1861, the world was startled with the recurrence of one of rectities of this unnatural war. The merchant left his
ounter, the farmer the quiet of home, the manufacturer's
intitle paused in its half finished round, the
invil rang not out the hammer's beat, the lawyer's
intinished brist loss its interest, the clergyman
olded up his sacerdotal robes, mothers, with
he devotion of Spartans, bade their sons georth; the wife pressed more closely her newborn babe,
is she gave a parting, and with blessings and prayers the
husband went forth, probably never to return. The naupidity. One class commenced secretly sending intelli-ance to the rebels; the other rendered to them no less valuable assistance by conspiring to defraud the people and the government. Almost the same instant harpies sged the Treasury here, and the vultures the North shuffed the spoils afar off. While bridges destroyed by the rebels were yet s, before the regiments impeded by their the panic of those times watchfulness on the part of pub undering hordes should be overlocked.

About the time the New York Seventh—the pride of the Empire State, composed of the best of her citizen soldiery; of men of wealth, high family position, education, enjoying the confidence of the community in all the relations of life—with the Massachusetts Sixth—a regiand hard biscuit with the gallant men of the Sixth, a contract was made in this city by the Department with Dwyer, Laughman, Sibley & Tyler, for cattle, from two to ten thousand, at eight dollars per hundred, live weight, delivered here, and five and three-quarters in Ponnsylvania. What facilities had Dwyer & Co, for transportation which the government did not posses? Government could lay its strong arms upon railroads and use them; could plant its gathering armies to guard the bridge and track. At that very time an agent was sent by the Department into Maryland, who, without difficulty, purchased cattle to be delivered in Washington at six and a half per hundred, live weight. Besides, direct navigation with New York was not obstructed by the Potomac. Still more, if the danger of transportation through Maryland was an excuse for this contract big with profits, why a provision that a portion should be delivered in Pennsylvania if the Department desired, and why were nearly 1,500 received in Harrisburg, while accreely 800 were delivered in Washington Notwithstanding the lions in the way, Dwyer & Co. immediately sub-let the contract to New York men, so that without any hazard or perils they realized over \$32,000 on about 2,000 head. They had no difficulty during the panic of those times in making this contract. Why should the government have found any special courage in overcoming dangers, or remarkable skill in purchasing cattle. Two were railroad contractors, one particularly near to the Secretary, one a lawyer, and one the winter before had been in consultation and negotiation with rebels for the sale of arms. Thus treason and corruption were continued at the capital.

states that —

The Department needs at this moment an intelligent, experienced and energetic man, in whom it can rely, to assist in pushing forward troops, munitions and supplies.

No man knew better than the Secretary that these qualifications were already possessed by the army officers in New York, on whom it was safe to rely. The Secretary then gracefully compliments Mr. Cummings:

You are acquainted with the internal arrangements and connections of the rathroads in Pennsylvania, over which, for the present, they will have to pass.

Can there be so much intricacy about the railroad connections in Pennsylvania that the United States Quartermaster in New York or Philadelphia was not conversant with them? The Secretary then adds the touching appeal to his patriotism:—

I am aware that your private affairs may demand your

I am aware that your private affairs may demand your line. I am sure your pairiotism will induce you to aid me, wen at zone loss to yourself.

On the 23t of April the Secretary again wrote:—

In consideration of the extraordinary emergencies which demand immediate and decisive measures. I hereby authorize Edwin D. Morgan and Alexander Cummings to make all necessary arrangements for the transportation of troops, in all and assistance of the officers of the army of the United States.

States.

Either was authorized to act in absence of the other.
On the 4th day of May Governor Morgan delegated his portion of the power to George D. Morgan. On the 24th the Secretary wrote.—

S. CAMBRON.

DR. COMMINGS.

This is the first time he recognised his friend as Doctor. Thus armed, the Doctor seemed supreme in his orbit; instead of rendering aid and assistance, he effectually superseded the army officers. Major Eaton distinctly informed him that his services were not needed in the purchase of supplies. Still, the Doctor commenced buying over \$21,000 worth of straw hatsnat hime pantaloons, which were worthless to the army, and not required by the regulations. He employed a clerk of whom he knew hothing—had never seen before. In his evidence at first be did not know who recommended him: then he thought he was recommended by Mr. Thurlow Weed—finally said, "I remember now that Mr. Weed told me he knew all about him, and upon his recommendation I took him." This clerk the Doctor suffered to do all the business and make all the purchases, except what were made by Go. D. Morgan. It is but justice to an influential and widely circulated paper in the city of New York to say that since the World was united with the Courier and Enquirer Mr. Cummings has had no connection with it as editor or publisher.

The Doctor and The Market Prince Cataline.

the Nord was unned with the Course and Requirer Mr. publisher.

The Dictor. CHAPTER or yet CALADER.

The Dictor CHAPTER or yet ChAPTER

I was sent for by Mr. Weed to come to the Astor House about the time of the commencement of these troubles. He stated that he was an agent of the government and had troops and munitions of war to send to Washington b' way, of the Chesspeake, and that he wished to charter tess is nor that purpose. Afterwards Chumitus e I ed upon me and showed me the same authority that Weed had shown. It had been transferred to him to perform the same service. * * I should think that Weed chartered from six to ten vessely.

This tostimony was given on the 23th day of Becamber, and up to that time the committee had no evidence or intimation that Mr. Weed had bee department was bibered in bestowing confidence and grants of power; but that confidence seems to have been abused by the transfer of authority one to the other. Mr. Weed's abbettee from and examine an anamination at present into the nature and examine an anamination at present into the nature and examine the was been the property of the York to the crime of larceny added the sin of perjury, that they might rob from the Treasury \$8,000. In the case of the Stars and Stripes the President of the New Haven Propeller Company, after taking from the government \$19,000 more than she cost, took of that amount nearly \$8,000 to line his own pockets, and in excess to his company pretended that he had to bribe an ex-member of Congress to gain an audience to the head of the bureau; and from that insinuation an honorable, high toned ex-member of Congress, in Connecticut, had been subjected to calumny. That President, before the committee, testified that after taking \$19,000 in profits from his country he was so anxious to serve her in this, the hour of her extremity, that he appropriated nearly \$8,000 of his colleagues! money to his private use, so he could devise some machine to take all the Southern cities, and no one get hurt. Colonels entrusted with the power of raising regiments colluding with contractors, bartering away and dividing contracts for horses and other supplies, to enrich persenal favorites; purchasing articles and compelling false invoices to be given. While it is no justification, the example has been set in the very departments of government. As a general thing none but favorites gain access there, and none other can obtain contracts which bear enormous profits. They violate the plain provisions of the law requiring bids and propusals on the false and shallow pretext that the public exigencies require it. Should this last as long as the Peloponessian war, the same excuse would be used. The Department, which has allowed conspiracies, after the bidding had been closed, to defraud the government of the lowest bid, by allowing the guilty to resp the fruits of their crime, has itself become purficeps criminate. Who pretends any public exigency for giving out the sidding had been closed, to dersud the government of the lowest bid, by allowing the guilty to resp the fruits of their crime, has itself become purficeps criminate as private contract

kets at fabulous prices? Who pretends a public exigency te make a private contract for rifling cannon to the amount of \$800,000?

PRENENTANIA HORSES.

Kentucky is proverbial for her splendid horses. Her loyal citizons would have been benefitted by sales to the government. Who will pretend that the public exigency required that when cavalry regiments were to be forwarded from the State of Fennsylvania to the land of the dark and bloody ground, it was necessary to transport, at great expense, the remaining disabled, diseased horses left in the Keystone State? My colleague on the committee (Mr. Dawes) a few days since spoke of the peace offerings to Pennsylvania politicians, and referred to the horses of Colonel Williams' regiment. There is yet another case—a contract not made upon the responsibility of the bureau, as the late Secretary said, but by its express order, and refused to be made until so ordered. I refer to the contract to purchase one thousand horses, to be delivered at Huntingdon, Pennsylvania. Such a horse market the world never saw. The first inspector—an honest man—of the first hundred rejected three in five. The next day owners refused to present themselves, and by some legordemain he was removed and others substituted; then horses of all ages, from two to thirty, of all diseases and defects, secret and open, were from day to day received. The whole neighborhood were in arms. The people remonstrated. Lawyers and clergymen were present at the inspection, and sought to describe be ridden upon the crowd, to drive them away, if possible. Horses with running sores, which were seen by the inspectors, were branded, and if one outraged common decency he would be rejected, and an opportunity sought the same day to pass and brand him. Infimediately the horses were subsisted by private contract to favorites at thirty nine cents per day, and they sub-let to farmers from twenty-four to twenty-siz. Over four hundred of these horses were sent with Colonel Wynkop's regiment, and the papers at Pittsburg report so

I have commissioned an agent, indicated by Mr. Aspinwall, to proceed to New Hedford to negotiate for the purchase of three whaleships, which the Department directed me to obtain for coaling uses; none can be purchased in this place.

23.500, gave a receipt for the same, 'for commissions on sale of the Mcrosdita.' The owners deny that they ever asked \$120,000 for the steamer, although Mr. Morgan claims in his statement that such amount was demanded of him. The Department fixed the value, and negotiated through the medium above stated. On the 17th of January Jewett & Co. wrote another leiter to the Scoretary, in which they recite the lact of their former complaints, aboving that they have been oppressed or aggreved, in which they say:

Do you think it right to endeavor to carry to the public, after such an offer on our part, the idea that we sought to after such an offer on our part, the idea that we sought to after such an offer on our part, the idea that we sought to after such an offer on our part, the least that we sought to after such an offer on our part, the idea that we sought to the interest of the company of the co

Department, but thy its express sanction and order. The pirates who infest the ocean, under the commission of the rebet chief, are not more descring the execution of mankind than the gang who, or land, are sufficred to feast upon the sweat of the poward the blood of the brave. White the nation is straining at every nerve, and bleeding at every pore, these hearties creatures, for gain, to gratify unholy passions—wretches.

Who shrine their lusts in Heaven, And make a pander of shert God, have a firmer grasp upon the throat of the nation than this armor robeline. Like panthers, at set of sun, across the nation's darkened path, they

Bound upon their startled prey.

And while this mighty nation, this giant of the West, is trembing beneath its great weight, its arms growing weary, all its nerves and sinsay quivering—almost while life is obbing from its veins—if gold could be extracted from the quartz they would nick by piecemeal the rock on which he stands, or if they could make merchandise of his looks, dishevelled by the rough tempest, would shear him of his strength. They follow

With that keen second seen to death

By which the vulture sunfis the food.

By which the valuer sauffs the feed in we cannot overcome the open enemy in front, let us at least banish the masked traitor in our midst. De this, and you strengthen anew the arms and add to the courage of the nation; inspire hope, and insure the conviction that all will be well. Traitor spies have been walking your streets, teasting at your cappital. They have been engaged in your departments, making drawings of your fortications, aggregations of your armies; all your consultations, your plans of battles and order of marches have been communicated to the enemy. Your generals have been paralyzed, your armies defeated, by the very men who are feeding upon the boun y of your government—betraying your confidence and the land which holds the graves of their fathers.

Oh, for a tongue to expect the slave.

the graves of their fathers.
Oh, for a tongue to curse the slave,
Whose treeson, like a deadly blight,
Comes o'er the counsels of the brave,
And blasts them in their hour of might!

most-betrying pool confidence and the least which books the green of their places.

Whose treese, the design depth of the control wight th of disunion over the grave where the bones of Washington are mouldering. Let them go to Richmond and ask the rebel crew to pull down the Confederate banner, and float the Stars and Skripes in its stead, over our custom, house and poet office. Let them go to Charleston and New Orleans, roll themselves in sackcloth and ashes, and ask that the eusign of their fathers shall float in their ports. Let them do this, and we will have peace. We ask for no more; we will submit to no less. Let them do this, and the sword of every Northern soldier will be returned to its scabbard, and he will no longer pray to teach his hands to war and his flugers to fight. We know their terms of compromise. The traitor Davis, taking advantage of his position while here to mature his conspiracies, in the other end of this Capitol, wanted us to roll up and lay away the national flag. Roll it up and lay it away! Why, it had been made giorious in three wars, and the wreath of its victories was yet green. It had carried American civilization over the prairies of the West; from the mouth to the source of the Father of Waters across the great wastes beyond; from the summit of the Rocky Mountains its protecting folds covered a land washed by two oceans. Roll it up and lay it away! Why? It had floated our commerce on every sea, was the emblem of our nationality and power in every port. Its folds were stiffened by the spray of the Northern ocean, and languidly it hung to the masts in tropic seas. Roll it up and lay it away! Never. It was powerful to protect Martin Kozzta thousands of miles from this capital, and it shall be powerful to protect he hoyal citizes wherever he may be found; men like Johnson, in Eastern Tennessee; and Holt, in his Kentucky home. If this be not so let us perish, and as a nation be forgotten; better the Declaration of Independence had never been penned; botter the blood of the Revolution had never been shod. It is no wonder that the thrones of England and France and the despotisms of Europa are in sympathy, and, as far as

That earth's struggling millions turn hither in gl.

To the land of the beautiful, land of the free.

They know that the great American people are in sympathy with the downtrodden, with the hewers of wood and the drawers of water, on the Eastern continent. They know that the revolutionists may wage the battle for the rights of man, and, if unsuccessful, find a city of roluge here. United, they know that we are powerful to defend our own, and protect the rights of others; divided, our power is gone, and we become as feeble as the ropulies in South America. They know that the political exile, the captive in his dungeon, the soldier of liberty, whether on the summit of the alps, or in its deep ravines, in the gloom of Hungary, or amid the desolations of Poland, are breathing forth prayers that in this great battle the rights of man may be victorious. They know if we are divided, defeated, destroyed, the dust of centuries will longer romain upon the throne of power; the crown will rest more easy on the despot's brow, and every tyrant grasp more firmly the sceptre which he wields. Let us disappoint them while we frustrate the schemes of speculators counting their gains, and politicians gambling for the succession by the half-opened grave of the republic. The dead past, from out the page of history, is looking down upon us; the living present, throbbing with hope, trembling with fear, is looking down upon us. The on-coming future, the echo of whose millions footfalls in the corridors of time we can almost hear, is looking upon us, beckoning to us, and in silent prayer beseeching that we may be true to ourselves, to the great legacy our fathers bequeathed, to the trust placed in our hands, to enjoy and transmit, not to tarnish and destroy. By all the memories of the past power and miners at home; conquer this rebellion and subdue the trators. Do you say we may not succeed? Then let us perish in the attempt. We may vainly die fer the land we cannot save? Then be it so. Hore let hope and ibserty's farewell fight be foug

destined bark through the "Gate of Tears."

Our cause may be betrayed,
Our deer loved country made
A laus of carcases and slaves,
One dreary waste of chains and graves.

We cannot, we dare not, yield while heaven has light or
earth has graves.

No; rather houseless roam,
Where freedom and our dod may lead,
Than be the sleekest slave at home
That crouches to the conqueror's creed.

No such dreadful fate can be compared; a creed.

No such dreadful fate can be ours, if we are only true to humanity and the God who guides the destinies of nations, the movements of arms, as he does the sparrow in his fall. Here we make our stand; live hundred thousand men, a wail of human hearts, to guard the land we love, the flag we henor. If driven henoe, even to the count and the lakes, we there will stand.

to be transported to the Pentientiary building at Alten.
The captives have been committed to the custody of the
Thirteenth United States Infantry, Lieutenant Colons
Durbank commanding, who will except them to the
moioted quarters.

of cotton in the Southern States, however, Colonel Thorpe asserted, had reached its maximum standard. The black population was every year growing smaller, and the white growing proportionately large. When the South produced 1,400,000 bales, the price paid by England was 14% cents per pound; but when the production came up to 1,800,000 bales the price averaged 7% cents. Might it not easily be supposed that should 3,000,000 bales of cotton be produced annually the price would come down to nothing at all. It was the opinion of the lecturer that it time to come india and Egypt would provide as much cotton for use as was necessary for public consumption. The lecturer was much applicated throughout his discourse.

After the transaction of some further unimportant business, the Society adjourned.

UNITED STATES COMMISSIONER'S COURT.

Before J. Buchanan Henry, Faq. Fzn. 6—The United States vs. Captain Nathan H. Millett. The defendant in this case is charged with the murder of John Dillon on the 24th of January, 1861, on board the American ship Saracen, by snooting him.

John Dillon on the 24th of January, 1861, on board the American ship Saracon, by anooting him.

Mr. Andrews appeared for the government, and examined a seaman named French, who derosed to the shooting of the deceased by the accused. His testimony was published in the Harato at the time the prisoner and the depositions, taken in Hong Kong, were sent on by the American Consul to the authorities at this port. The witness detailed some dispute that occurred between the mate and some of the sailors respecting some work to be done; the mate struck Jack on the forelead with a belaying pin and cut him; Captain Millett came up and asked what was all that row about, and said he would soon settle it; the captain had a pistol in his hand and presented it at witness; one of the men said, "Captain, don't shoot that sick man, he has only come on deck to day;" Dillon, the deceased, came out of the forecastle, and the captain presented the pistol at him; Dillon said, "My God! Captain, don't shoot me," the captain said he would, and shoot them all like dogs if they did not do their duty; the captain field, and shot Dillon, who said, "My God! Captain, you have killed me, and you will suffer for it;" one of the men said to the captain that he should not have shot that man; the captain said, "It is done now, and it can't be helped," Dillon suffered much all that night, and died at seven e clock in the morning; he was buried at eight.

Cross examined by Mr. Choate—Witness had never heard of or seen any quarred between the deceased and the captain; the deceased was a quiet man; the captain was quiet, and treat the men and officers well; never heard him swear at the men or officers; the first officer was a disagreeable man, that would make disturbence in any voyage; he called the men all sorts of names, swore at them and beat them; he (the first officer) beat crow didn't like the first mate at all.

After some further cross-examination of this witness the case was adjourned.

ACTION AGAINST THE GALWAY STEAMSHIP COMPANY Fm. 6.—Stephen Figms w. the Atlantic Royal Scamehip Navigation Company.—This was an action brought by plaintiff for damages for injuries received by him in falling through a hatchway on one of the company's vessels on a yoyage from Galway to New York, by reason of the negligence of the defendants' servants. The plaintiff's shoulder blade was broken and he was thereby ten months out of employment.

The Judge charged that if the jury believed there was negligence on the part of the defendants, in not having a light placed over the open hatchway, the plaintiff was entitled to recover. Verdiet for plaintiff, \$500. Counsel for plaintiff, ex-Recorder Talfmadge; for the defendants, Mr. Richard O'Gorman.

Marine Court. ACTION AGAINST THE GALWAY STRAMSHIP COMPANY

Marine Court. Before Hon. Judge McCarthy and a jury. ASSAULT AND BATTERY BY A DEPUTY SHERIPP.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY BY A DEPUTY SHERIPF.

Frs. 6.—John Dillon w. Bernard Reilly and another.—
In October last plaintiff presented a bill to the defendant Reilly for painting. Reilly denied the indebtedness, when Dillon charged him with being a liar, whereupon Reilly attempted to shove Dillon out of his (Reilley's) store. While in this act the other defendant stepped up, struck plaintiff a blow which broke his jaw. Bernard Reilley, formerly a Deputy Sheriff under Mr. Keily was the only party served. The jury, after being addressed by Mr. Townsond for defendant, and excludge Thompson for the plaintiff, gave the latter a verdict for \$50.